

## CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE

April 29, 2022

### Message from the Manager:

Recently, I was reminded that leadership and mentorship can come to us from all throughout our organization. How many of you have heard of the book *Integrity Does Matter*? How many of you know the book's author Henry A. Nash? If the author's name doesn't wake up your memory, you may know him simply as "Henry" and as a supervisor in our Parks Department! Henry's passion is serving others, a fact that is obvious if you spend any time visiting with him. That passion is what drove him to write his book about integrity.

This month as I was scrolling through social media, I ran across a video of Henry explaining how integrity and attitude interrelate. Henry states that anchoring ourselves through integrity to a positive attitude helps us to maintain our attitude despite the harsh things that life can throw at us. Henry's example was that "a bad attitude is like a flat tire, and you cannot go anywhere until you change it." What a great reminder to us all that we control our attitude! Henry Nash's lessons reminds me a lot of another Henry's quote – this being from Henry Ford (and one of my favorites), "whether you think you can or think you can't you are right." Our attitude, chosen by us, impacts everything we do and has a direct bearing on our personal success!

Not only was Author Nash's lesson timely for me, it was also an excellent reminder of how each of us in our organization can strengthen each other. Each of you has unique skills and abilities you bring to our team. Like the everyday renewal of energy and kindness of Melonie Matthewson, or the selfless acts of Stephanie Hall to ensure team members' good efforts are recognized, just to name a couple. You each are mentoring someone in some way each day even if you are not aware of it. The challenge for each of us is to be mindful of this and to make sure we take the time to share of ourselves with each other. We have many examples around us of team members who do! For me this week it was Henry Nash. I'm so thankful to work with a team that inspires me to be better every day!

David

*"Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude."* - **Thomas Jefferson**

*"Gray skies are gonna clear up,  
Put on a happy face;  
Brush off the clouds and cheer up,  
Put on a happy face.  
Take off the gloomy mask of tragedy,  
It's not your style  
You'll look so good that you'll be glad  
Ya' decide to smile!*

*Pick out a pleasant outlook,  
Stick out that noble chin;  
Wipe off that "full of doubt" look,  
Slap on a happy grin!*

*And spread sunshine all over the place,*

*Just put on a happy face!" From the Song "Put on a Happy Face" by Dick Van Dyke*

## **General Updates:**

### **Congratulations to Recent Promotions:**

Maintenance Technician Fabian Brooks was promoted to the position of Maintenance Technician II on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Welcome to Our New Hires:**

Terrell Reynolds was hired on April 4<sup>th</sup> for the position of Light Equipment Operator in Streets. Fabian Venegas was hired on April 11<sup>th</sup> for the position of Maintenance Technician in Wastewater. Eve Vazquez was hired on April 18<sup>th</sup> for the position of Customer Service Clerk in Finance. Samuel Banks was hired on April 18<sup>th</sup> for the position of Light Equipment Operator in Parks. Alyah Williams was hired on April 19<sup>th</sup> for the position of Student Clerical Assistant in Human Resources.

### **Transfers:**

Part Time Athletic Aide Eddie Romero transferred to the position of Part Time Recreation Aide on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Jeans Calendar:** Make sure you check out the recent calendar our creative HR staff put out on the days on which jeans are allowed! I hear the next day is this coming Monday and we get to wear our favorite sports team shirt as well! Look for a calendar to come out each month with new themes!

**City Councilmembers:** Mayor Pro-tem Jennifer McCann ran unopposed and will begin her second term on May 10. We will be saying goodbye to two term Councilmember Jackeline Soriano Fountain on May 10 and welcoming new Councilmember Tony Canterino, who also ran unopposed. We thank Councilmember Fountain, "Jackie" as we affectionately know her, for her great service to our City!

**Early Voting:** Early voting for school board and propositions is May 2 and May 3 at the Recreation Center from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. May 7 is election day.

**Book Sale:** The Friends of the Library Book sale returns on Friday, April 29 from 4 to 6 p.m. and on Saturday, April 30 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Library!

**May the Force Be With You:** Celebrate all things Star Wars with the Library from Monday, May 2 through Saturday, May 7! The library has numerous events planned over those days to enjoy!

**Adult Soccer League:** Registration for the first ever Adult Soccer League hosted by the Harker Heights Parks and Recreation is open now until April 15.

**Mother's Day Maker Space:** Do you need make your mother a one-of-a-kind creation? Here's your chance. Visit the Library Wednesday, May 4 from 2 to 5 p.m., Thursday, May 5 from 2 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, May 6 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Dana Peak Hike:** GO Heights will have a hike at Dana Peak Park on May 19 at 6:30 p.m. Contact the Recreation Center for more info.

**Carl Levin Pool Passes:** Pool passes for the 2022 year will be available for purchase starting May 2 at the Recreation Center. The pool will open the weekend of May 28/29.

**Pool Party Rentals:** Pool party rentals are set to open on May 11.

**Family Campout:** The annual Family Campout at Dana Peak Park will take place May 6 to May 8. Contact the Recreation Center for more info.

### **Spotlight on Service:**

**Nicole Loayze Employee of the Month:** Congratulations to Nicole Loayze who was honored by her coworkers as the March Parks and Rec Employee of the Month!

**Catharina Hoffman and Genelle Rodriquez-Otero Thanked:** Deputy Police Chief Hawkins recent wrote in to thank Catharine Hoffman and Genelle Rodriquez-Otero of Courts for their assistance with the Building a Better Youth (B.A.B.Y.) program. Their assistance made the BABY program a success and DC Hawkins said they were a pleasure to work with.

**BABY Program Team Gets Praise:** City Manager Mitchell wrote this to the BABY program team: Proud of you all! While B.A.B.Y. is a great program, it is the people that carry the program out that always make the difference. Kudos to you all for your care and concern for the youth of our City!

**Kudos to Deputy Commander Hawkins:** Concerning the BABY program, HR Director Leona Clay wrote to DC Hawkins that he and his team deserve a huge thank you for putting together such an outstanding program.

**Courtney Fye Wows:** An engineer called to let Planning know that Courtney Fye is wonderful and so nice to work with.

**Courtney Fye Assists:** A citizen thanked Courtney Fye for all her help in assisting him with a permit he was struggling with.